

Leicester, Mass. July 14/63.

Dear friend Webb,

Early in July I wrote you from here, and enclosed to you two photographs of old "Sojourner Truth" sent to me from Michigan to be forwarded to ^{the} Dublin friends who had so kindly remembered her. A week ago today ^{also} I wrote you from Boston, and enclosed two (out of 3) photos. of Wendell Phillips which he desired me to send you in his name. To-day I am sending you five - perhaps six - photographs, of those you requested me to procure for you; for I find that, while I can send but 2 (& a note) in one envelope at the half-ounce, I can send 5 (and I think 6) ~~at~~ the ounce, or double, rate.

I now send the 3^d of Phillips, 1 of R. W. Emerson (I could get but one last week, but will send another) 2 of Mrs. Stowe (not very good but the best I could find, & the one she prefers, as I heard) and 1 or 2 of myself, which you kindly asked, and which shall cost you nothing. - I shall probably not be able to get you one of Mrs. L. M. Child. She has a very great repugnance to having her face taken, & never has had it, I believe, in the Carte form. The remainder of your order I think I can fill, in the course of time, - unless it be of the Weston family. I have never seen any of them, and do not expect to get one.

I also send you herein the receipt for the donation of the Messrs. Cairnes & Mr. & Mrs. Jameson for the Freedmen - amounting to nearly \$50. at present rates of exchange. You said it was to be given to the Freedmen's Aid Society, which I understood to mean any

One of the several Societies which aid the freedmen. I believe there is no Society with just the title you give. The New York Society is entitled "Freedmen's Relief Socy." I could not so well get at that, & knew less about it. The Boston Society (the "Educational Commission for Freedmen") was the first in the field, and is most intelligently and judiciously managed. Gov. Andrew is its President Officer, and its Committees comprise some of the very best educated and most devoted friends of humanity in the country. Their reports will be sent to these Dublin Contributors. Their funds have been placed where the very most profitable will be accomplished by them. Mr. Endicott, the Treasurer, was one of the business partners of the late Charles F. Hovey, & still continues a member of the firm of "Hovey and Company." This disposition of the Dublin Contribution will, I trust, be satisfactory.

I am not yet able to give Alfred the answers to his inquiries about our National Finances; but I bear them in mind, and hope before long to write to him. In one of my late letters to you, I enclosed a newspaper ship, which gave a little light upon the matter.

Very unpleasant tidings come to us of a riotous combination in New York City against the Draft for the Army. It has taken place all over New England, including Boston, with the utmost quietness & no spark of opposition. This outbreak in N. Yk. is a most unpleasant fact, "The Govt. ought to have been better prepared for it, than it seems to have been."

Our Successes at Vicksburgh, and against Lee's great army, have been very great, & are most important.

Returning from Boston last Friday evening, I found yours awaiting me, enclosing the notes of Miss Martineau, Mr. Wright, G. Thompson, Chaffin, &c. in the Conway matter. It was very kind in you to send them, and it will afford pleasure to others as it has to me to read them, & witness the deep & hearty interest in American affairs taken by at least a few thoughtful & noble souls in G. Britain. I sent them immediately to C. K. Whipple, as to the most safe & careful person possible, requesting him to show them to Phillips, Garrison, Quincy, Sanborn, (Ed. of Commonwealth, the paper with which Conway corresponds), & some others, according to his ^{judgment} ~~discretion~~. I wrote to you my mind about Conway's action, on the 2^d or 3^d July, which you have probably recd. by this time. You will see by Liberator & Standard what our friends have said & done on the subject. I was quietly resting at home here when the correspondence arrived. My principal feeling was one of indignation at Conway's daring to take so presumptuous & flagrant a step at all, & especially that he should think to commit the Abolitionists of America to the same position. I was, also, greatly surprised that even he (very self-confident as I know him to be) should fancy himself an Envoy, and empowered to speak for the Antislavery people of this country; but my indignation was more than my surprise. I wrote some Resolutions and took with me to Framingham for our meeting on the 4th, and was gratified to have them unanimously and emphatically adopted in that gathering of thousands. You will see them in Liberator of 10th inst. In same paper you will see Phillips's speech at the same place, in the outset of which he shows that Conway, of all the American Abolitionists, stands entirely alone in his most extraordinary action. A man so deficient in moral instincts as not to know by intuition that no decent American should suffer Mason to approach him with any negotiations, and, a fortiori, that none such should ever go to Mason in any circumstances,

ought to be very careful how he opens his mouth again, and
should certainly observe a long penitential season of silence.
That none of the harm, here, came of it, which Miss Martineau
and you apprehended, is certainly not attributable to any
judgment or consideration of Conway's, - while it does show
I think, the essential good sense of our people, the great
majority of whom at once detected the self-conceit of the thing,
& gave no credit to the claim of representing the "Anti-Slavery
leaders" of America. Indeed his having to write home for his
credentials did the business for him here. A person empowered
to treat on grave public questions doesn't go to his distant
place of conference without those little articles. The common
talk was that C. had "made a fool of himself," and we heard the old
proverb applied in his case, that "he went after wool, and
came back shorn". - Mr. Garrison, with his instinctive good
sense, at once did the right thing. He wrote a brief letter to the
New York Tribune, which appeared promptly in that paper, and
which assured the country of the total dissent of the American
Abolitionists from Mr. Conway. The letter was essentially the same
with his leading editorial in Liberator of July 3^d, "No Compromise
with the Rebels".

Time is up. So farewell.

Yours with sincere regards
Saml. May Jr.